

A black and white photograph of a document folder. The folder is light-colored and has a white label on its top edge. The label contains the text "COMMERCE & INDUSTRY" in a serif font. The background is dark and out of focus, showing what appears to be a metal mesh or grate.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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where it was found was occupied by one William Moore, who was the great grandfather of J. H. Buzzard.

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Mining Development

Flint, formerly a thriving lumber town on the Durbin branch of the Western Maryland is coming to life again as a result of the exercising by the J. D. Walker Mining Company of an option on 25 acres of surface land given it by S. P. Flanagan, who purchased the acreage a few years ago and Flint bids fair to become a thriving mining center and the center of operations for the Walker New River Mining Company.

The surface land purchased has a boarding house and several other buildings upon it, but preliminary plans for the construction of an office building, dwellings for miners and other plant buildings as well as a new tipple. In fact the Walker New River Company proposes to spend a large sum of money in improving and expanding plant facilities with a view to increasing production.

Flint was formerly near the seat of operations of M. M. and D. D. Brown now operating not far from Montrose. Established now as a mining center, it will have many people in its midst as one of the important mining towns on the Durbin Branch of the Western Maryland which will soon have six mines in operation and which gives promise of becoming an important mining branch of the Western Maryland instead of a lumber carrying branch as was formerly the case.—
Randolph Review

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West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Re-submitted
7

Subject Countryside & Industry (Coal) Date 2/20/41
Research Worker Samuel G Smith Date Research Taken 2/17, 19/41
Typist Samuel G Smith Date Typed 2/20/41
Source N.W. Clark Hillsboro, W. Va. Date Filed _____
Court-Records, Marlinton, W. Va.



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In 1812 Sheldon Clark of the Levels took up land on Briery Knob and shortly after discovered coal this section is about 4400 feet above sea level, the next thing to do was open this coal up so with the help of Johny B Kenanison of Hillsboro and George Lee of Millpoint they built a road from the forks of the road known as the crossroads to the coal bank on Briery Knob, Sherman, Peter, Alvan, Henry and Preston Clark helped build the road they were sons of Sheldon Clark.

This was a drift mine and the first coal mined there was waggoned to The Little Levels to be used by farmers, stores and by Blacksmiths in their shops, in later years this was operated by Ellis McCarty, E. O. Wade and Nick McCoy they having secured a contract with Smith & Whiting who were working for The St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co of Roncoverte who were Manufacturing the white pine of Pocahontas County on the East side of the Greenbrier River, McCarty, Wade and McCoy furnished Smith & Whiting near 150 tons of coal for which they received from \$ 12. to \$14.00 a ton delivered to them at Laurel Run where they were operating at that time this was something like 1884 & 86. *For this last engine manual files*

The next mining was done by George Walton as he rented it for a period of five years selling the coal he mined to the Blacksmiths, to stores and for use in private homes after his contract was out Kit Thomas and Norvel W Clark operated the mine in the fall of the year for some two years and after that the mine layed idle for a number of years but in 1934 or 35 S. O Bartholomew leased the mine he of Hillsboro he had the mine reopened track was layed and the coal mined and carted out over this track by hand he employed from 3 to 4 men the year around using more men during the rush season the Government owned land beyond the mine so the C. O. C built a good road to the mine Bartholomew furnishing some trucks when the road was completed this mine did a good business as Bartholomew operated two trucks in the hauling of coal to the many sections of the county Richard Arbogast of Millpoint and Hubert Miller of Hillsboro driving for him, this if coal was sold locally to stores, private homes and a vast amount was sold to the Board of Education and was delivered to the many schools

Commerce And Industry. S.G. Smith. Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.
Coal

of Pocahontas County especially The Little Levels school.

Bartholomew paid a royalty of 20 cts. per ton to the Clark heirs. The slack or fine coal was used in burning lime as Bartholomew had a draw kiln at the foot of Groop Mountain which he operated in connection with the coal mine this kiln was on the H.W. Beard farm where there is an abundance of limestone of high analysis, and here they put out thousands of tons of burned lime both in the rock and slacked lime that was bought by the farmers of Pocahontas County, Bartholomew employed from 3 to 5 men during the summer months besides his truckers.

The Briery Knob land was sold in 1939 to the United States Of America but reserving the coal, oil gas and other mineral rights and at this time Bartholomew contract had expired and since that time the mine has been idle as the steel was all taken up and disposed of but this mountain is full of high grade coal and no doubt when other fields are exhausted this mine will be opened up again.

Information. N.W. Clark. Hillsboro. W. Va.
Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.